

at least one physical synchronization marker on said cover; and

means for determining possible presence of an analyte material by analyzing the data read from said optical disc assembly.

2. (Cancelled)

2/ 3. (Currently Amended) A method for acquiring data from an optical disc assembly including a cover having physical synchronization markers, said method comprising:

detecting at ^{least} ~~least~~ one physical synchronization marker on an optical disc cover;

reading data from said optical disc assembly in response to detecting said at least one physical synchronization marker; and

determining possible presence of an analyte material by analyzing the data read from said optical disc assembly.

3/ 4. (Previously Amended) A method for acquiring data from an optical disc in combination with a cover having physical synchronization markers, said method comprising:

detecting at least one physical synchronization marker on said cover;

reading data from said optical disc in response to detecting said at least one physical synchronization marker on said cover; and

determining possible presence of an analyte material by analyzing the data read from said optical disc.

4/ 5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for acquiring data from an optical disc assembly using physical synchronization markers, said apparatus comprising:

an optical disc drive capable of reading operational and nonoperational structures from an optical disc assembly; and

a photodetector for detecting at least one physical synchronization marker on a cover associated with said optical disc assembly, said physical synchronization marker adapted to enable a counting of data points to thereby determine a radial position of a respective data point associated with said optical disc.

6. (Cancelled)

[Please add new claim 7.]

~~5~~ 7. (New Claim) An optical disc system, comprising:

an optical disc assembly having a cover with physical synchronization markers adapted to enable a counting of data points to determine a radial position of a respective data point associated with said optical disc assembly;

a detector implemented to detect at least one physical synchronization marker on said cover of said optical disc assembly; and

a reader that reads data from said optical disc assembly in response to detecting said at least one physical synchronization marker on said cover to thereby determine possible presence of an analyte material by analyzing the data read from said optical disc assembly.
